

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 240835Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3457

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV AO

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MPLA

1. SUMMARY. CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE RECENTLY THAT LEAD SOME OBSERVERS TO CONCLUDE A CHANGE IS IMMINENT IN THE MAKEUP OF THE MPLA LEADERSHIP AND THE ORGANIZATION'S PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATIONS. CHANCES ARE SLIGHT HOWEVER, THAT ANY DRAMATIC SHIFT WILL OCCUR IN THE POWER STRUCTURE. END SUMMARY.

2. I TALKED WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER GENERAL DA SILVA CARDOSO ON APRIL 21. AGOSTINHO NETO HAD COME TO SEE HIM BEFORE LEAVING ON HIS CURRENT TRIP TO ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA. THE GENERAL BERATED HIM FOR STATEMENTS CRITICAL OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT NETO HAD MADE IN LISBON A SHORT WHILE AGO. HE ALSO TOLD NETO THAT HIS INTRANSIGENT ATTITUDE IS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPASSE IN THE DECOLONIZATION PROCESS AND MUCH OF THE VIOLENCE. NETO REPLIED THAT UPON HIS RETURN TO ANGOLA IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS HE WILL UNVEIL A NEW "ACTION PLAN" WHICH HE DID NOT DESCRIBE FURTHER TO THE#8&# :9..8 89,34. CARDOSO TOLD ME HE HOPES THE NEW PLAN CONSISTS OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE REVOLTA ACTIVA INTO  
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THE MAINSTREAM OF THE PARTY AND A BREAK WITH THE SOVIET UNION

BY MPLA.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE REVOLTA ACTIVA, OR ANDRADE FACTION, NETO DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE LESSENED HIS OPPOSITION TO THE IDEA THAT REVOLTA ACTIVA SHOULD BE A LEGITIMATE CURRENT OF OPINION IN THE MPLA. UNLESS HE HAS CHANGED HIS ATTITUDE WITHIN THE PAST FEW DAYS, HE WILL ACCEPT THE REVOLTA ACTIVA MEMBERS AS INDIVIDUALS, NOTHING MORE. THE ANDRADE GROUP, MEANWHILE, HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF INCREASING DISCONTENT AND A DESIRE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS, EVEN IF IT MEANS JOINING ANOTHER MOVEMENT, AND A FEW HAVE DONE JUST THAT. IT IS TRUE AGOSTINHO NETO IS BEING SUBJECTED TO HEAVY PRESSURES FROM ALL SIDES TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE-FROM WITHIN HIS PARTY FROM AFRICAN LEADERS, FROM THE PORTUGUESE- AND HE IS RESPONDING, OR AT LEAST HE SAYS HE IS. NO ONE YET KNOWS WHAT HIS NEW PLAN IS, BUT I DOUBT IT GIVES MUCH TO REVOLTA ACTIVA.

JRM ON THE SUBJECT OF SOVIET TIES TO THE MPLA, TWO GROUPS HAVE EMERGED WITHIN THE NETO FACTION: ONE FAVORS CLOSE TIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER, A MODERATE OR SOCIALIST FACTION, WANTS TO BREAK WITH THE USSR AND ADOPT A MORE COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD FNLA. MPLA PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEMBER LOPO DO NASCIMENTO, MINISTER OF JUSTICE DEOGRACIA BOAVIDA AND SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR HENRIQUE SANTOS REPRESENT THE MODERATES; THE HARDLINE SOVIET BACKERS ARE LESS READILY IDENTIFIABLE, BUT MAY INCLUDE LUCIO LARA, MINISTER OF FINANCE SAYDI MINGAS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION RUI MONTEIRO. LOPO DO NASCIMENTO IS SAID TO HAVE THREATENED TO RESIGN OVER THE ISSUE OF SOVIETHBACKING, BUT WAS DISSUADED BY NETO.

5. THE PORTUGUESE STILL MAY BE THINKING OF TRYING TO PULL NETO OUT OF THE FIRE DESPITE THE FGUSTRATION OVER HIS OBSTINANCY. JONAS SAVIMBI TOLD ONE OF HIS FOLLOWERS THAT HE MET FOR FOUR HOURS IN LUSAKA WITH MAJOR MELO ANTUNES WHEN THE PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS DOWN THIS WAY LAST MONTH. SAVIMBI REPORTED THAT ANTUNES SUGGESTED A MEETING OF MPLA, UNITA AND THE PORTUGUESE TO TRY AND COME UP WITH SOME FORMULA THAT WOULD ENSURE COOPERATION BETWEEN UNITA AND MPLA AND LESSEN FNLA INFLUENCE. SAVIMBI SAID HE REJECTED THE IDEA OUT OF HAND. ANTUNES IS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT ELECTIONS BE POSTPONED, ANOTHER IDEA SAVIMBI

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SAID HE REJECTED. I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER ON THE MEETING. ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN NETO WAS IN LISBON EARLIER THIS MONTH, ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO IS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD HIM HE HAD TO SHAPE UP OR RUN THE RISK OF LOSING EVERYTHING.

6. SAVIMBI AND NETO MET IN LUSAKA IN THE PAST FEW DAYS AND DISCUSSED THE SUMMIT MEETING FOR WHICH BOTH HAVE CALLED. IT WILL NOW BE UP TO SAVIMBI TO MAKE CONTACT WITH HOLDEN ROBERTO TO GET HIS APPROVAL

AND SET A TIME AND PLACE. MOST PROBABLY BOTH SAVIMBI AND NETO WILL  
INSIST ON A VENUE INSIDE ANGOLA ANDHALL THREE LEADERS MAY WELL  
UNITE ON THE QUESTION OF KEEPING THE PORTUGUESE OUT OF THE MEETING.  
KILLORAN

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